

2012 Black History Month Essay Contest

The Bloomington Black History Month essay contest is designed to encourage youth to learn more about the contributions African Americans have made to our country. The African American journey, though sometimes distressing, is inspiring. The focus of this contest is to celebrate just a few of the wonderful achievements of this community and in doing so it is hoped that young people will learn a little more - not just about African American History but American History.

Guidelines

The theme of this year's Black History Month essay contest is "Black Women in History and Culture". The essay should be 500 words. It should outline the subject's contributions to society and a description of the significant aspects of their life story. Students should choose someone from the list below to be the focus of their essay. The essay will be judged on content and grammatical accuracy. Attention to details such as punctuation and spelling will be important. There will be winners at the elementary (4-6 grade), middle (7 & 8 grade), and high school (9-12 grade) levels. All youth residing or attending school in Bloomington are eligible to participate.

Historical Subjects

Marian Anderson (1912-2010)
Maya Angelou (1928-)
Shirley Chisholm (1924-2005)
Dorothy Height (1912-2010)
Eunice Johnson (1916-2010)

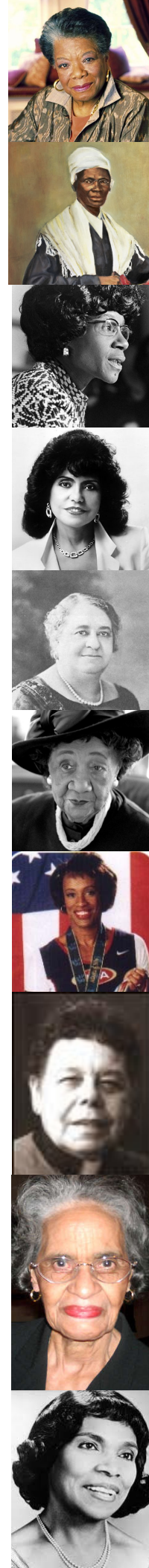
Jackie Joyner Kersee (1962-)
Bishop Leontyne Kelly (1920-)
Viola Taliaferro (1928-)
Sojourner Truth (1797-1883)
Maggie Lena Walker (1864(7)-1934)

Submissions

All essays are due **Tuesday, January 31, 2012 at 5 pm.**
Email all submissions to bhmessaycontest@bloomington.in.gov or mail them to:

Black History Month Essay Contest, Safe and Civil City Program,
P.O. Box 100, Bloomington, IN 47402

Please be sure to include your name, grade, email address, telephone number (optional), and the name of your school.



Black Women in History and Culture